

Growing as a Disciple of Jesus Christ

(appropriate for High Schoolers and older)

Michael R. Daily, May 2017

Other youth bible studies by Michael Daily available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

(Print out page 8 and make copies to give to the audience as a handout)

You are the owner of a car manufacturing company. A few years ago you invested hundreds of millions of dollars to design and build a new car manufacturing plant. You spent large sums of money on the building and the facilities and the manufacturing equipment. You hired hundreds of people to work at the plant and you sent them to training classes to learn how to build high quality cars, safely and efficiently. Its been two years since the plant started operations and you decide to travel out to visit the plant. As you walk around the plant with the local plant manager, you are impressed to see how lively the workers are and how active the manufacturing machines are. Seeing the painting robots in action is like watching a ballet. Workers are talking with great animation and everyone is clearly enthusiastic and engaged in the work. Then you turn to the plant manager and say, "Very impressive! Now, let's get down to business. The purpose of this plant is to make cars. So, how many cars has this plant finished and delivered over the last two years?" The plant manager says, "You mean, actual cars that we have completed and delivered? Zero."

As the owner of and investor in this factory, what would you say to the plant manager and the workers?

What error has the plant manager and the workers made? They lost track of their primary mission and settled for looking busy. If you don't focus on accomplishing the mission, you will end up being busy, but missing the target.

The Great Commission

As Jesus was leaving Earth for the last time (until His future return) what was the critical mission He gave to His Church? Its often referred to as the Great Commission.

Commission: *a command to act in a prescribed manner or to perform prescribed acts as an obligation or requirement*

Matthew 28:18-20

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Is the mission to make converts? No. What is the mission? Making disciples. And how do we make disciples? By teaching them to observe all that God has commanded us.

Observe: to obey (as in the NIV translation)

Notice that Jesus did not say we are to teach them the "head knowledge" of what He has commanded us. We are not to just teach what the Bible says. Why?

I Corinthians 8:1

Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies.

Because head knowledge leads to arrogance and self-righteousness. If we focus on teaching what the Bible says we end up with people who are arrogant and self-righteous. Instead of disciples we end up making Pharisees!

But, making Pharisees is not the mission. The mission is making disciples.

James 4:17

Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Teaching head knowledge without the “how to’s” of application also heaps condemnation on people.

Instead, we are to teach them “how to” obey what He has commanded. To make disciples we focus on teaching the “how to’s”.

If you go to doctrinally correct churches, from now until the day you die, the pastors are all going to tell you that you should be sharing the gospel with the non-Christians in your life. But how many of those pastors are going to teach you exactly how to do it? Probably none. Someone else is going to have to show you how to do it. From now until the day you die, your Sunday school teachers will all be telling you to spend regular time with God, reading the Bible, and praying. How many of them are going to show you exactly how to do it? Very few.

And yet the command is to make disciples. So, we have to teach them the “how to’s” so they can obey!

Bible knowledge today is readily available on a scale never seen before in human history. We have Christian videos and books and movies and websites and numerous people who will teach us what the Bible says.

But there are very few people who will help us learn how to actually put these things into practice in life. That is what making disciples is all about. Why are teaching the “how to’s” critical in disciplinemaking?

Proverbs 29:19

A slave will not be instructed by words *alone*; For though he understands, there will be no response.

People live their lives mostly by habit. Hearing words from other people, by itself, is usually not enough to change the habits of their lives. But changing habits is what is needed to grow as a disciple.

How good a gymnast can you become if you read books on gymnastics, attend classroom instruction on gymnastics, watch videos about gymnastics, and listen to talks given by successful gymnasts, but you never actually go into the gym? You would not be a gymnast! You would be someone who understands and appreciates gymnastics, but you yourself would not actually be a gymnast.

To become a gymnast you would also need to go into the gym regularly and put your head knowledge into practice. When you first do that what will happen? You will find out that it's harder than it looks and that you are not very good at actually doing gymnastics. Then you will either quit or you will dedicate yourself to training, practicing things over and over. You will slowly get better until eventually you are doing seemingly impossible things. If you have an experienced coach encouraging you who has done these things themselves, that is ideal.

Soon you will graduate from high school. After that happens, for the rest of your life, no one is going to make you do anything spiritually. No one is going to make you read your Bible. No one is going to make you memorize scripture or spend time with God – ever. So, you have a decision to make. Are you going to be a disciple or just a convert who understands and appreciates those who are disciples, but is not a disciple themselves?

Disciple vs Convert

95% of what is required for you to make a disciple is, you being a disciple! So, in order to make disciples you first have to be a disciple yourself.

Then, you make others disciples by teaching them how to do the things you are doing. So, what are the characteristics of a disciple in comparison to a convert? Look at your handout (page 8).

Characteristics of a Convert

Adapted from: Leroy Eims, "The Lost Art of Disciplemaking", Zondervan / Navpress, 1981, page 184.

- 1) He/she gives evidence of possessing new life.

II Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Two days after becoming a Christian at the age of 18, I was talking to some other men my age and when they spoke they cussed quite a bit. It shocked me a little. But then a thought came into my head (I know now it was the Holy Spirit) and the thought was, "that was you two days ago". It wasn't a big thing but it was enough for me to realize I was not the same person I was two days ago.

- 2) His/her attitude toward Jesus Christ is now favorable.
- 3) His/her attitude toward sin is now unfavorable.

If someone claims that they have become a Christian, but they also defend their sinful lifestyle, they are not a true convert. The true convert may still have a sinful lifestyle, but they don't defend it and they are not happy about it.

Characteristics of a Growing Disciple

Adapted from: Leroy Eims, "The Lost Art of Disciplemaking", Zondervan / Navpress, 1981, page 185.

- 1) He/she puts Christ first in the major areas of his life and is taking steps to separate from sin

(Luke 9:23)

And He was saying to *them* all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.

(Romans 12:1-2)

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

- 2) He/she continues in God's Word through such means of intake as Bible reading, Bible study, and scripture memory (not just hearing). He/she regularly applies God's Word to his life with the help of the Holy Spirit.

(James 1:22-25)

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

(John 8:31)

So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine;

- 3) He/she maintains a consistent devotional life and is growing in faith and intercessory prayer

(Mark 1:35)

In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left *the house*, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there.

(Hebrews 11:6)

And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

(Colossians 4:2-4)

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with *an attitude of thanksgiving*; ³ praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; ⁴ that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.

- 4) He/she attends church regularly and demonstrates Christ's love by identifying with and serving other believers.

(Hebrews 10:24-25)

and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

(John 13:34-35)

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

(Galatians 5:13)

For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

- 5) He/she is openly identified with Jesus Christ where he lives and works, manifests a heart for witnessing, and presents the gospel regularly with increasing effectiveness.

(Matthew 5:16)

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

(Colossians 4:6)

Let your speech always be with grace, *as though* seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

(I Peter 3:15)

but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always *being* ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

- 6) He/she is a learner who is open and teachable.

(Acts 17:11)

Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily *to see* whether these things were so.

7) He/she is a visible follower and learner of Jesus Christ, and demonstrates consistency and faithfulness in the above areas.

(Luke 16:10)

“He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.

Growing as a Disciple

Based on these characteristics, here are some things that disciples do on a regular basis: Bible Reading, Bible Study, Scripture Memory, Quiet Time and Prayer, Witnessing, and (lets add another one) Giving.

At this point most people will quit. Why? It feels impossible - its too much. But in reality its only too much if you try to do it all at once, or too fast.

Key Point: *There is nothing in the Bible that says you have to do it all at once or that you have to do it fast.*

Let's say you really want to be a disciple but you don't know where to start. OK, let's just pick one thing to work on for the year. It doesn't matter what it is.

For example, I taught an adult group a lesson on witnessing using the Bridge Illustration with eleven memorized verses. Afterward, one of the people said that they could not memorize eleven verses. They just didn't have time. They were really busy and important and they just didn't have time to do it. I asked if they were willing and able to give God 60 seconds a day. They said they probably could. So I went over the following with them:

Print out the first verse of the Bridge Illustration (Isaiah 53:6) on a card or piece of paper. You can do it on your computer from the website: <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search>

Then, spend 60 seconds every day working on memorizing that verse. At the end of 30 days you will have that verse memorized. The next month, do the same with the second verse (Romans 6:23) and also spend 15 seconds reviewing the first verse (Isaiah 53:6). That's 75 seconds a day the second month and at the end of the second month you will have two verses memorized. Continue the process so that by the end of month 11 you are spending 60 seconds a day memorizing the last verse (1 John 5:13) plus 2.5 minutes reviewing the other 10 verses. That's still only 3.5 minutes a day at the end. Then spend the twelfth month putting it all together and completing your Bridge Illustration from start to finish (5 minutes a day during the last month). You now have the Bridge Illustration memorized and you can share the gospel with anyone in the world who speaks English and you can do it for the rest of your life— and it only took you a year! OK, now that you have spent a year getting the Bridge Illustration down, you can review it once a week (5 minutes once a week) and that is enough to keep it fresh. I usually review it in my mind on Sunday evening without even looking at anything. Its not hard to keep it fresh after that first year. For a detailed study on this topic please see, "Good Works, Witnessing, & Evangelism" at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

Compare that to the convert that decides that those few minutes a day are not worth it - its too hard. They don't do it and they spend the rest of their lives not sharing the gospel - ever! What they are saying by their decision is, "I don't really care about those people going to the Lake of Fire. They just aren't important to me. And I know God commands us to witness but I just don't love Him enough to do it. And I know God rewards us for witnessing but His rewards just aren't that interesting to me". That is what they are saying by their decision.

Perhaps, in year two, the next thing you decide to work on is a daily quiet time and prayer. I would recommend that you purchase the workbook, "Lord, Teach Us to Pray – How to Have a Daily Quiet Time Alone with God", by Rev. John S. Mahon (available at amazon.com, see link below) https://www.amazon.com/Lord-Teach-Us-Pray-Daily/dp/1490869131/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1493592809&sr=1-1&keywords=john+s+mahon

Spend 5 to 10 minutes a day using the workbook to develop a regular devotion with God. The workbook will tell you exactly what to do each day.

It will take you about 6 months, but perhaps you set aside a year to focus on this. You still have your Bridge Illustration too, but that only takes 5 minutes once a week to review in your mind. For a detailed study on this topic please see, "The Importance of a Regular Quiet Time" at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

Perhaps on your third year you decide you want to work on your giving. You start by giving 2% of your income (2% giving over 34 years = one mina) because Jesus praised those who gave 2% of their income (**Luke 19**). So, every time you get paid you write a check for 2% of that amount and send it to your church, or a Christian mission's organization. Do that for a year. The following year increase that to 3%. Work toward increasing your giving by another 1% each year until God gives you a sense that you should level off. It may take you a while to get to a 10% giving level, but you will still get there as your heart grows and your faith increases. Compare this to the convert that is overwhelmed at the idea of giving 10%, so he never gives anything - ever! For a detailed study on this topic please see, "Using Money To Store Up Treasure In Heaven" at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

Now we are about 4 years into growing as a disciple. As the years go by we can add other things. Perhaps a Bible reading program. I use a chronological New Living Translation Bible for reading, NASB for study. https://www.amazon.com/Chronological-Bible-Premium-Slimline-Large/dp/1414337663/ref=pd_sim_14_1?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=1414337663&pd_rd_r=9CVCKZA4R819SP0H7WY3&pd_rd_w=scSlx&pd_rd_wg=BMQJL&psc=1&refRID=9CVCKZA4R819SP0H7WY3

What about a scripture memory program? The Navigator Topical Memory System is a good place to start. https://www.amazon.com/Topical-Memory-System-Navigators/dp/1576839974/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1494206807&sr=1-1&keywords=topical+memory+system+navigators

When it comes to Bible study I can only do about five or six high quality bible studies a year. So, I do them and document them very well. That way I can reuse them with different audiences without a lot of additional work. Five isn't very much, but do it for ten years and you have 50 high quality Bible studies! Depending on the audience, I can teach up to 20 high quality Bible studies a year even though I can only create about 5 a year. Compare that to the convert who decides its too much – and he never does any!

The key is to not feel like it all has to be done at once

Imagine you are on a road trip driving across the country in your car on the highway and you are going the speed limit of 75 miles/hour. Eventually you get to your destination. But what if we change the speed to 55 miles/hour - now what happens? We still make progress and we get to our destination – it just takes a little longer. What if we change the speed to 40 miles/hour? The other drivers may complain that we are moving too slow but, in fact, we are making progress and we will still arrive at our destination. In the grand scheme it does not really matter that much, does it?

But what if your travel speed was ZERO miles/hour? That's a problem.

When it comes to the disciplines of the Christian life (like quiet time, scripture memory, witnessing, giving, etc.), God rarely tells us how many times or what speed to do it. But what He does say is the number can't be zero (that would be disobedience)! So, ask God what makes the most sense for you and Him to do together, in terms of what you could sustain over the long run. Just keep the wheels on that car turning and you'll be OK.

An exception to this rule is if you are in a ministry where the leader has "set the speed". For example, in the early days of the Navigators, Dawson Trotman required everyone involved in this ministry to memorize three verses a week every week (he later reduced it). The leader's standard may not seem sustainable to you but you won't be involved with a particular spiritual leader forever, probably just a year or two. While you are with them work to their standard. Later, you and God may decide to "change the speed". That's OK, just don't let it go to zero.

Some churches today do not like discipleship ministries. Why? In some cases, the person leading the ministry was trying to get people to do too much at once or to go too fast. Not making disciples is not the answer. The answer is to do your best, commit to making continual progress, and to not stop – but the speed is negotiable.

Making Disciples

As you grow as a disciple, you can teach others how to do the things you are doing at any moment in time.

Philippians 4:9

The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

(II Timothy 2:2)

The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

(Colossians 1:28-29)

We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. ²⁹ For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.

(I Thessalonians 2:11-12)

just as you know how we *were* exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father *would* his own children, ¹² so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

If someone wants to learn how to witness, just show them how to do what you are doing in witnessing. If they want to learn how to do something else, show them what you are doing and how you do it. You are making disciples!

Keep in mind that making disciples is a team effort. You will help people with the things you are doing and others will help them with other things.

Some people believe that you should not share the gospel with someone that you can't follow up. Not true! It's a team effort. We share the gospel with anyone who will listen. If they become a Christian we do what we can to help them grow. But if we can't for some reason, God will use other people to help them. Most of the people I have led to Christ I have not discipled, and most of the people I have helped grow as disciples were not people I led to Christ. That's OK.

I have led people to Christ who did not want me to help them grow. But they were willing to go to church with a friend they had. That's OK. It's a team effort. Their friend may be someone who never shares the gospel but who may be the best one to help them grow at this point in their Christian life.

Some people believe you should not make disciples unless you can make a "whole disciple". This isn't true either. It's OK to make a "piece of a disciple". Teach them the things you are doing, even if you aren't doing "everything". God will use other people to disciple them in the areas you can't.

Luke 6:40

A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.

Once you have fully trained the person in the things you are doing, they will be like you. They will have your strengths and they will also have your weaknesses. God will then use other people to help them in the areas where you are weak. As you continue yourself to grow as a disciple, you will have more and more things you can teach others how to do.

So, now you know how to be and make a disciple of Jesus Christ!

Three Characteristics of a Convert

Adapted from: Leroy Eims, "The Lost Art of Disciplemaking", Zondervan / Navpress, 1981, page 184.

- 1) He/she gives evidence of possessing new life. **(II Corinthians 5:17)**
- 2) His/her attitude toward Jesus Christ is now favorable.
- 3) His/her attitude toward sin is now unfavorable.

Seven Characteristics of a Growing Disciple

Adapted from: Leroy Eims, "The Lost Art of Disciplemaking", Zondervan / Navpress, 1981, page 185.

- 1) He/she puts Christ first in the major areas of his life and is taking steps to separate from sin. **(Luke 9:23, Romans 12:1-2)**
- 2) He/she continues in God's Word through such means of intake as Bible reading, Bible study, and scripture memory (not just hearing). He/she regularly applies God's Word to his life with the help of the Holy Spirit. **(John 8:31, James 1:22-25)**
- 3) He/she maintains a consistent devotional life and is growing in faith and intercessory prayer. **(Mark 1:35, Hebrews 11:6, Colossians 4:2-4)**
- 4) He/she attends church regularly and demonstrates Christ's love by identifying with and serving other believers. **(Hebrews 10:24-25, John 13:34-35, I John 4:20-21, Galatians 5:13)**
- 5) He/she is openly identified with Jesus Christ where he lives and works, manifests a heart for witnessing, and presents the gospel regularly with increasing effectiveness. **(Matthew 5:16, Colossians 4:6, I Peter 3:15)**
- 6) He/she is a learner who is open and teachable. **(Acts 17:11)**
- 7) He/she is a visible follower and learner of Jesus Christ, and demonstrates consistency and faithfulness in the above areas. **(Luke 16:10)**

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Growing as a Disciple of Jesus Christ*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 28:18-20*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Corinthians 8:1, James 4:17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 29:19*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Growing as a Disciple of Jesus Christ*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Corinthians 5:17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Luke 9:23, Romans 12:1-2*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *James 1:22-25, John 8:31*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Growing as a Disciple of Jesus Christ*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Mark 1:35, Hebrews 11:6, Colossians 4:2-4*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Hebrews 10:24-25, John 13:34-35 Galatians 5:13*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 5:16, Colossians 4:6, I Peter 3:15*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Growing as a Disciple of Jesus Christ*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Acts 17:11*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Luke 16:10*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Philippians 4:9*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *Growing as a Disciple of Jesus Christ*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Timothy 2:2*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Colossians 1:28-29, I Thessalonians 2:11-12*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Luke 6:40*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

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